

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend the bill. (Read Lamb amendment found on page 667 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, this is an amendment I offered in the Education Committee when this bill came through there. I was unsuccessful there but I thought I would offer it again for your consideration. As Senator Smith has explained, this bill allows certain community colleges to increase their property tax levy. Under current statutes, the two out west can already exceed the 7 cents by 4.2, so they have a total of 11.2 that they can go up to. This bill would allow the other community technical colleges in the state excluding Metro in Omaha to do the same thing. That is one part of the bill. The other part of the bill is that it increases that 4.2 cents per \$100 to 5 cents so that they can go up to a total of 12 cents. So that would affect my area. The rest of the bill will not affect my area because my area can already levy the additional 4.2. In my area, they cannot, of course, go up to the 12 that is called for in the bill. So in committee I offered an amendment which would strike the increase from 4.2 to 5 that they can exceed the 7. So if my amendment were adopted, all the community technical colleges in the state except Metro could have a total levy of 11.2 instead of 12 which is the same situation we now have in the two western community technical college areas. It does allow, with my amendment the bill would allow these other tech colleges to increase their levy over the present 7 cents per 100 by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors but it would not allow all the tech colleges or any of them to increase it up to the 12. So I thought that was a reasonable compromise or at least it is one that I offered in the Education Committee and I will offer the same one here.

PRESIDENT: Senator...the lights on for the...Senator Abboud, do you wish to speak on the amendment? On the Lamb amendment.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Mr. President. I am a little puzzled by this entire bill and I am getting more confused every minute with Senator Lamb's amendment. Maybe Senator Smith can help to clarify my confusion. Would Senator Smith yield